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SUBJECT: CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE FROM GABONESE PRESIDENT OMAR BONGO
ONDIMBA TO PRESIDENT-ELECT SENATOR BARACK OBAMA

REF: State 118192

¶1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS A SECOND LETTER THAT WAS PROMINENTLY
PLACED ON FRONT PAGE OF THE GABONESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER -
L'UNION PLUS (NO. 9866 EDITION) ON NOVEMBER 6, 2008:

THE HONORABLE
BARACK OBAMA
THE PRESIDENT-ELECT
WASHINGTON

DEAR SENATOR,

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAS PLACED ITS HOPES IN YOU AND ENTRUSTED YOU
WITH ITS DESTINY FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.
I AM PLEASED, AT A TIME WHEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER
KING'S DREAM HAS COME TRUE, TO EXPRESS TO YOU, ON MY OWN BEHALF AND
ON BEHALF OF THE GABONESE PEOPLE, OUR WARM CONGRATULATIONS.

YOUR ELECTION, WHICH IMPASSIONED THE PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD,
PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM THE CONTINENT OF AFRICA, WHICH WITNESSED THE
BIRTH OF YOUR FATHER, IS UNDENIABLY A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR THE UNITED
STATES.

AT A TIME WHEN THE PLANET IS BATTLING A MULTI-FACETED CRISIS
(FINANCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, FOOD, ETC.) AND THE CONCEPT OF PERPETUAL
PEACE IMAGINED BY THE GERMAN PHILOSOPHER KANT HAS YET BEEN REALIZED,
AND SELFISHNESS AND NATIONALISMS ARE ON THE RISE, I AM HOPEFUL THAT
YOUR ELECTION WILL BE FOR YOUR COUNTRY AND FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD THE
DAWN OF A NEW ERA OF COOPERATION, PEACE, AND COLLECTIVE PROSPERITY.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU, YOUR FAMILY, AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA!

MR. SENATOR, PLEASE ACCEPT MY RENEWED PERSONAL BEST WISHES AND THE
ASSURANCE OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

EL HADJ OMAR BONGO ONDIMBA

REDDICK